

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **February 17, 2005** the Examiner reviewed claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, and 19-24. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 11, 12, 14-17, 19, 20, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Li et al (USPN 6,208,183, hereinafter "Li") in view of applicant's admitted prior art (hereinafter AAPA. Claims 5, 13, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Li in view of AAPA and further in view of Coleman et al (USPN 4-151-473, hereinafter "Coleman").

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Independent claims 1, 9, and 17 were rejected as being unpatentable over Li in view of AAPA. Applicant respectfully points out that the combined system of Li and AAPA teaches a gated-delay locked loop that generates an output clock in phase with and having a **frequency which is an integer multiple of the frequency of a reference clock** (see Li, Abstract).

In contrast, the present invention determines a maximum common frequency between two sources and automatically adjusts the operating frequency of the two sources to that **maximum common frequency** (see paragraphs [0023]-[0026] of the instant application). This is beneficial because it allow the two sources to operate at the fastest possible mutual speed. There is nothing within Li or AAPA, either separately or in concert, which suggests determining a maximum common frequency between two sources and automatically adjusting the operating frequency of the two sources to that maximum common frequency.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 9, and 17 to clarify that the present invention determines a maximum common frequency between two sources and automatically adjusts the operating frequency of the two sources to that maximum common frequency. These amendments find support in paragraphs [0023]-[0026] of the instant application. Applicant has added new claims 25-27 to reinstate original claims 2, 10, and 18, respectively.

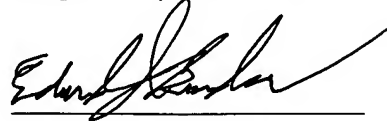
Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 9, and 17 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 3-8 and 25, which depend upon claim 1, claims 11-16 and 26, which depend upon claim 9, and claims 19-24 and 27, which depend upon claim 17, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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